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FULL ESTIMATED COST

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=> fusion protein 249224 FUSION 9434 FUSIONS 254283 FUSION (FUSION OR FUSIONS) 1810847 PROTEIN 1263057 PROTEINS 2105815 PROTEIN

(PROTEIN OR PROTEINS)

L1 44724 FUSION PROTEIN (FUSION(W) PROTEIN)

=> hcv 9939 HCV 19 HCVS

1.2

9943 HCV (HCV OR HCVS)

=> => L1 and L2

327 L1 AND L2

=> core and L3 293056 CORE 63330 CORES 324149 CORE

(CORE OR CORES)

115 CORE AND L3 T.4

=> NS3 and L4

2213 NS3

44 NS3 AND L4 1.5

=> NS5 and L5

882 NS5

T.6 19 NS5 AND L5

=> D L6 IBIB ABS 1-19

ANSWER 1 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2005:984887 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 143:384632

TITLE: Design of novel conformational and genotype-specific

antigens for improving sensitivity of immunoassays for

hepatitis C virus-specific antibodies

AUTHOR(S): Lin, Sansan; Arcangel, Phillip; Medina-Selby,

Angelica; Coit, Doris; Ng, Philip; Nguyen, Steve; McCoin, Colin; Gyenes, Alex; Hu, Celine; Tandeske, Laura; Phelps, Bruce; Chien, David

CORPORATE SOURCE: Chiron Corporation, Emeryville, CA, 94608, USA

SOURCE: Journal of Clinical Microbiology (2005), 43(8), 3917-3924

CODEN: JCMIDW; ISSN: 0095-1137
American Society for Microbiology

DOCUMENT TYPE: Journal LANGUAGE: English

PUBLISHER:

The current com. licensed enzyme-linked immunosorbent assays (ELISAs) for hepatitis C virus (HCV) mainly use recombinant proteins containing linear epitopes. There is evidence, however, that conformational epitopes of HCV are more immunoreactive. Thus, we have designed an HCV antibody assay that employs a conformational protein, NS3NS4a PI (with functional protease and helicase activities), and a linear fusion protein, multiple-epitope fusion antigen 7.1 (MEFA 7.1) or MEFA 7.2. We have shown that NS3NS4a PI detects early-seroconversion conformation-sensitive antibodies better than c33c antigen. The correct conformation of NS3NS4a PI also cross-reacts with different genotype samples better than the c33c antigen. MEFA 7.1 and MEFA 7.2 incorporate all the major immunodominant and genotype-specific epitopes of HCV core, E1, E2 hypervariable region 1 (HVR1), E2 HVR1-plus-HVR2 consensus, NS3, NS4, and NS5

. Since MEFA 7.1 is degraded by the active NS3NS4a PI protease, we designed a second MEFA 7.2 construct in which the six protease cleavage sites found in MEFA 7.1 were eliminated by amino acid mutation. We demonstrate here that MEFA 7.2 remains intact in the presence of NS3NS4a PI and preserves the epitopes present in MEFA 7.1. Compared to currently licensed assays, an ELISA incorporating a combination of the two antigens NS3NS4a PI and MEFA 7.1 or 7.2 demonstrates better serotype sensitivity and detects seroconversion earlier in many com. available panels. We believe that an assay using NS3NS4a PI and MEFA 7.1 or 7.2 may have the potential to replace current HCV immunoassays for better sensitivity.

REFERENCE COUNT: 25 THERE ARE 25 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD. ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT

L6 ANSWER 2 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2005:324271 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 142:409691

TITLE: Vaccines comprising optimized multi-epitope nucleic

acids or polypeptides to increase immunogenicity

against AIDS, hepatitis B, cancer, etc.

INVENTOR(S): Sette, Alessandro; Chesnut, Robert W.; Newman, Mark

J.; Livingston, Brian D.

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Epimmune Inc., USA

SOURCE: PCT Int. Appl., 261 pp.

CODEN: PIXXD2

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent LANGUAGE: English

FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT: 1

PATENT INFORMATION:

PATI	ENT	NO.			KIN	D	DATE						NO.		D	ATE	
WO 2	2005	0332 0332 0332	65		A2 C2		2005 2005 2005	0602	1				732		2	0040	426
	:	CN, GE, LK, NO, TJ, BW, AZ, EE, SI,	CO, GH, LR, NZ, TM, GH, BY, ES,	CR, GM, LS, OM, TN, GM, KG, FI,	CU, HR, LT, PG, TR, KE, KZ, FR,	CZ, HU, LU, PH, TT, LS, MD, GB,	AU, DE, ID, LV, PL, TZ, MW, RU, GR, CF,	DK, IL, MA, PT, UA, MZ, TJ, HU,	DM, IN, MD, RO, UG, NA, TM, IE,	DZ, IS, MG, RU, US, SD, AT, IT,	EC, JP, MK, SC, UZ, SL, BE, LU,	EE, KE, MN, SD, VC, SZ, BG, MC,	EG, KG, MW, SE, VN, TZ, CH, NL,	ES, KP, MX, SG, YU, UG, CY, PL,	FI, KR, MZ, SK, ZA, ZM, CZ, PT,	GB, KZ, NA, SL, ZM, ZW, DE, RO,	GD, LC, NI, SY, ZW AM, DK, SE,
RITY	APP	LN.	INFO	. :						US 2	003-	4652	29P		P 2	0030	425

PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.:

US 2003-465229P P 20030425

AB The invention relates to multi-epitope nucleic acid and peptide vaccines and methods of designing such vaccines to provide increased immunogenicity

against e.g. infection by HBV, HCV, HIV and CMV, as well as

. prostate cancer, renal carcinoma, cervical carcinoma, lymphoma, condyloma acuminatum and AIDS. For example, a multi-epitope construct comprises nucleic acids encoding cytotoxic T lymphocyte epitopes of pol, env and core proteins of hepatitis B virus.

ANSWER 3 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2004:905910 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 141:378844

TITLE: Inducing a T cell response with recombinant

antigen-expressing pestivirus replicons or recombinant pestivirus replicon-transfected dendritic cells, and

therapeutic uses

INVENTOR(S): Rehermann, Barbara; Racanelli, Vito; Behrens,

Sven-Erik; Tautz, Norbert

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): The Government of the United States of America as

Represented by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, USA; Justus-Liebig-Universitaet Giessen

SOURCE: PCT Int. Appl., 143 pp.

CODEN: PIXXD2

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent LANGUAGE: English

FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT: 1

PATENT INFORMATION:

PAT	ENT	NO.			KIND DATE			Ì	APPL	ICAT	ION	NO.		D	ATE		
WO	2004	0923	86		A2	_	2004	1028	,	WO 2	004-	US11	018		2	0040	
WO	2004	0923	86		A3		2005	0512									
	W:	ΑE,	AG,	AL,	AM,	ΑT,	ΑU,	ΑZ,	BA,	BB,	BG,	BR,	BW,	BY,	BZ,	CA,	CH,
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		NO,	NZ,	OM,	PG,	PH,	PL,	PT,	RO,	RU,	SC,	SD,	SE,	SG,	SK,	SL,	SY,
		TJ,	TM,	TN,	TR,	TT,	TZ,	UA,	UG,	US,	UZ,	VC,	VN,	YU,	ZA,	ZM,	ZW
	RW:	BW,	GH,	GM,	KE,	LS,	MW,	MZ,	SD,	SL,	SZ,	TZ,	UG,	ZM,	ZW,	AM,	AZ,
		BY,	KG,	ΚZ,	MD,	RU,	ТJ,	TM,	AT,	BE,	BG,	CH,	CY,	CZ,	DE,	DK,	EE,
		ES,	FI,	FR,	GB,	GR,	ΗU,	ΙE,	IT,	LU,	MC,	NL,	PL,	PT,	RO,	SE,	SI,
		SK,	TR,	BF,	ВJ,	CF,	CG,	CI,	CM,	GΑ,	GN,	GQ,	GW,	ML,	MR,	ΝE,	SN,
		TD,	TG														
RTTY	' APP	T.N.	TNFO	. :					1	US 2	003-	4621	65P		P 2	0030	411

PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.:

US 2003-462165P P 20030411 US 2003-463097P P 20030414

AB The present disclosure relates to compds. and methods of generating T cell-mediated immunity, particularly T cell-mediated immunity to Hepatitis C Virus (HCV), Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Mycobacterium tuberculosis, Plasmodium falciparum, and tumors. The method includes (a) administering to the subject an amount of an antigen presenting cell (such as dendritic cell) sufficient to induce the response in the subject, wherein the antigen presenting cell expresses the recombinant antigen from a pestivirus replicon or (b) directly administering the recombinant antigen expressing replicon in form of RNA or DNA.

L6 ANSWER 4 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2004:583933 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 141:255157

TITLE: Cloning and expression of a biotinylated multiple-epitope **HCV** fusion antigen gene

AUTHOR(S): Li, Bao-Chang; Sun, Ping; Yang, Shu-Hua; Wang, Quan-Li CORPORATE SOURCE: Institute of Blood Transfusion, Academy of Military Medical Sciences, Beijing, 100850, Peop. Rep. China

Zhongguo Shiyan Xueyexue Zazhi (2004), 12(3), 359-362 CODEN: ZSXZAF; ISSN: 1009-2137

Zhongguo Shiyan Xueyexue Zazhishe

DOCUMENT TYPE: Journal LANGUAGE: Chinese

SOURCE:

PUBLISHER:

AB The aim was to develop a single multiple-epitope fusion antigen which incorporates all of the major immunodominant epitopes from the six functional regions of the HCV genome. A nucleic acid sequence consisting of viral core, E1, E2, NS3, NS4, and

NS5 regions was constructed and inserted into the Promega Pinpoint Xa-1 T vector for inducing expression. The protein was expressed in JM109 (DE3) as a fusion protein with a 13 kD biotinylated tag to be used for detection and affinity purification Immunogenicity and biotinylated tag of the fusion protein were detected by Western blot anal. with pos. anti-HCV serum and streptavidin alkaline phosphatase. After purified by Promega SoftLink Soft Release Avidin Resin, the protein was pre-coated on microwell and detected with anticore, anti-NS3, anti-NS4 and anti-NS5 pos. sera by EIA, resp. The results indicated that the recombinant soluble protein was expressed and labeled with biotin successfully, it reacted with anti-HCV pos. serum, and exposed all of the major immunogenic epitopes chosen. In conclusion, this recombinant antigen may be used to design an double antigen sandwich anti-HCV immunoassay.

ANSWER 5 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN L6

2004:392569 CAPLUS ACCESSION NUMBER:

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 140:390291

Activation of HCV-specific T cells using TITLE:

fusion protein vaccines comprising

HCV NS3, NS4, NS5a, and NS5b

polypeptides

Houghton, Michael; Coates, Steve; Selby, Mark; INVENTOR(S):

Paliard, Xavier

Chiron Corporation, USA PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): SOURCE:

PCT Int. Appl., 136 pp.

CODEN: PIXXD2

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent English LANGUAGE:

FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT:

PATENT INFORMATION:

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PATENT NO.
                                             APPLICATION NO.
                          KIND
                                  DATE
                                                                       DATE
                                 -----
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                                              _____
                                  20040513 · WO 2003-US33610
     WO 2004039950
                                                                     20031024
                          A2
         W: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
             CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE,
             GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK,
             LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ,
             OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,
             TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW
         RW: GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW, AM, AZ, BY,
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     CA 2505611
                           AA
                                  20040513
                                           CA 2003-2505611
                                                                     20031024
                                             EP 2003-781368
     EP 1576125
                           A2
                                  20050921
                                                                       20031024
             AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IT, LI, LU, NL, SE, MC, PT, IE, SI, LT, LV, FI, RO, MK, CY, AL, TR, BG, CZ, EE, HU, SK
PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.:
                                              US 2002-281341
                                                                 A 20021025
                                                                   W 20031024
                                              WO 2003-US33610
     The invention provides a method of activating hepatitis C virus (
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AΒ HCV)-specific T cells, including CD4+ and CD8+ T cells. HCV-specific T cells are activated using fusion protein vaccines comprising HCV NS3, NS4, NS5a, and NS5b polypeptides, polynucleotides encoding such fusion proteins, or polypeptide or polynucleotide compns. containing the individual components of these fusions. The method can be used in model systems to develop HCV-specific immunogenic compns., as well as to immunize a mammal against HCV.

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ANSWER 6 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
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ACCESSION NUMBER: 2004:162773 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 140:210733

Method and composition for treating and preventing TITLE:

hepatitis C infection

Morham, Scott; Zavitz, Kenton; Hobden, Adrian INVENTOR(S):

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Myriad Genetics, Inc., USA SOURÇE: . PCT Int. Appl., 63 pp.

CODEN: PIXXD2

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent LANGUAGE: English

FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT: 1

PATENT INFORMATION:

KIND DATE APPLICATION NO. PATENT NO. DATE ______ -----____ _____ WO 2004016738 A2 A3 20040226 WO 2003-US22956 20030721 20040617 WO 2004016738 W: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW RW: GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW, AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR, BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.: US 2002-397267P P 20020719 The present invention provides methods for preventing and treating hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection and symptoms thereof by introducing cells displaying a HCV altered budding phenotype into a patient, or by administering to a patient nucleic acids, polypeptides and small organic compds. to cause the formation of cells displaying a HCV altered budding phenotype in the body of the

hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection and symptoms thereof by introducing cells displaying a HCV altered budding phenotype into a patient, or by administering to a patient nucleic acids, polypeptides and small organic compds. to cause the formation of cells displaying a HCV altered budding phenotype in the body of the patient. In particular, the invention provides compns. and methods that affect the ability of HCV, or a variant thereof, to utilize the host's cellular machinery for viral budding and egress. The invention relates to the discovery that interfering with the normal ability of viruses to utilize the host cells vesicular trafficking, recycling, and vacuolar sorting machinery for viral propagation can reduce the infectivity of the virus. Accordingly, the invention provides HCV treatment methods and compns. based on the modulation of viral budding. Modulation of the normal HCV budding mechanism can also enhance the host's immune response against the virus. The invention therefore provides compns. and methods for enhancing an immune response against HCV. The invention further provides a method of identifying compds. that modulate the activity of a viral protein host cell protein protein-protein interaction that is involved in a viral egress and/or budding pathway.

L6 ANSWER 7 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2004:41605 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 140:110111

TITLE: HCV fusion proteins with

modified NS3 domains for inducing cellular

immune response against HCV infection

INVENTOR(S):
Houghton, Michael

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Chiron Corporation, USA SOURCE: PCT Int. Appl., 86 pp.

CODEN: PIXXD2

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent LANGUAGE: English

FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT: 3

PATENT INFORMATION:

PAT	TENT	NO.			KIN	D	DATE		i	APPL	ICAT	ION	NO.		D	ATE	
	2004		-		A2 A3				1	WO 2	003-	US20	996		2	0030	702
	₩:	DK, KE, MW,	EE, KG, MX,	ES, KP, NO,	FI, KR, NZ,	GB, KZ, PL,	BA, GD, LC, PT, VN,	GE, LK, RO,	GH, LR, RU,	GM, LS,	HR, LT,	HU, LU,	ID, LV,	IL, MD,	IN, MG,	IS, MK,	JP, MN,
	RW:	GH,	GM,	ΚE,	LS,	MW,	ΜZ,	SD,	SL,	SZ,	ΤŻ,	UG,	ZM,	ZW,	AM,	ΑZ,	BY,

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                               20040115
                                        CA 2003-2491508
                         AA
    CA 2491508
                                         EP 2003-763172
                                                                 20030702
    EP 1539809
                         A2
                               20050615
            AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IT, LI, LU, NL, SE, MC, PT,
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            IE, SI, LT, LV, FI, RO, MK, CY, AL, TR, BG, CZ, EE, HU, SK
                                          JP 2004-519849
                             20051027
    JP 2005532064
                        Т2
                                                              P 20020702
                                           US 2002-393694P
PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.:
                                                             P 20020708
                                           US 2002-394510P
                                                             W 20030702
                                           WO 2003-US20996
    The invention provides HCV fusion proteins
AB
    that include a mutated NS3 protease domain, fused to at least
    one other {	t HCV} epitope derived from another region of the
    HCV polyprotein. The fusions can be used in methods of
    stimulating a cellular immune response to HCV, such as
    activating hepatitis C virus (HCV)-specific T cells, including
    CD4+ and CD8+ T cells. The method can be used in model systems to develop
    HCV-specific immunogenic compns., as well as to immunize a mammal
    against HCV.
    ANSWER 8 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
ACCESSION NUMBER:
                    2003:59621 CAPLUS
                        138:84465
DOCUMENT NUMBER:
TITLE:
                        Construction of E. coli heat-labile enterotoxin
                        expression vector pGEM-LTB and uses as vaccine
INVENTOR(S):
                        Cheng, Fang; Xiao, Yunning; Wang, Yanrong
                        Peop. Rep. China
PATENT ASSIGNEE(S):
                        Faming Zhuanli Shenqing Gongkai Shuomingshu, 11 pp.
SOURCE:
                        CODEN: CNXXEV
DOCUMENT TYPE:
                        Patent
LANGUAGE:
                        Chinese
FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT:
PATENT INFORMATION:
    PATENT NO.
                       KIND
                               DATE
                                         APPLICATION NO.
                                                                DATE
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                                                                 _____
    CN 1340625
                        A 20020320
                                          CN 2000-122857
                                                                 20000830
PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.:
                                          CN 2000-122857
    The present invention provides the recombinant expression vector pGEM-LTB
    containing the full-length nucleotide sequence of plasmid pGEM and the
    nucleotide sequence of humanized thermolabile enterotoxin beta (LTB) of E.
    coli. The fusion expression vector pGEM-LTB is constructed and used to
    express one or more of exogenous genes or express the small mol.
    polypeptide for the preparation of the medical composition or vaccine.
    ANSWER 9 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
ACCESSION NUMBER:
                     2002:587648 CAPLUS
DOCUMENT NUMBER:
                        137:139355
TITLE:
                        Hepatitis C virus multiple copy epitope fusion
                        antigens for diagnosis and treatment of HCV
                        infection
INVENTOR(S):
                        Valenzuela, Pablo D. T.; Chien, David Ying
PATENT ASSIGNEE(S):
                        Chiron Corporation, USA
SOURCE:
                        U.S., 24 pp., Cont.-in-part of U.S. Ser. No. 653,226.
                        CODEN: USXXAM
DOCUMENT TYPE:
                        Patent
                        English
LANGUAGE:
FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT: 2
PATENT INFORMATION:
     DAMENIO NO
                        KIND DAME
                                          A DDI TCATTON NO
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PATENT NO.	KIND	DATE	APPLICATION NO.	DATE
US 6428792	В1	20020806	US 1997-859524	19970520
US 6514731	B1	20030204	US 1996-653226	19960524
CA 2250723	AA	19971127	CA 1997-2250723	19970523
WO 9744469	A2	19971127	WO 1997-US8950	19970523
WO 9744469	A3	19971231		
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              ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG
                                                EP 1997-927767
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     EP 935662
                            A2
                                   19990818
              AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IT, LI, LU, NL, SE, MC, PT,
              IE, FI
                                    20000526
                                                 NZ 1997-333431
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     NZ 333431
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                             Т2
                                    20010123
                                                 JP 1997-542848
                                                                           19970523
                                                 US 2002-174652
                                                                           20020617
     US 2003044774
                            A1
                                    20030306
PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.:
                                                 US 1996-653226
                                                                      A2 19960524
                                                 US 1997-859524
                                                                      A 19970520
                                                 WO 1997-US8950
                                                                       W 19970523
AΒ
     Human hepatitis C virus (HCV) has been identified as the etiol.
     agent of non-A, non-B hepatitis (NANBH). HCV viruses display
     considerable genotypic and phenotypic heterogeneity. Thus, there is
     considerable need in the art for more sensitive reagents that facilitate
     the detection of HCV variants. The genome of hepatitis C virus
      (HCV) consists of seven functional regions: the core,
     E1, E2/NS1, NS2, NS3, NS4, and NS5 regions.
     attempt was made to improve the sensitivity of anti-HCV assays
     by developing multiple copy epitope fusion antigens (MEFAs) which
     incorporate the major immunodominant epitopes from the functional regions
     of the HCV genome. These MEFAs are encompassed by the following
     generic structural formula: (A)x-(B)y-(C)z. This formula represents a
     linear amino acid sequence comprising multiple copies of one HCV
     epitope (A) linked to multiple copies of another HCV epitope (B)
     which in turn is linked to multiple copies of yet another HCV
     epitope (C). Expression vectors carrying nucleic acid sequences
     comprising MEFA antigens carrying multiple copies of epitopes derived from
     the viral core, E1, E2, NS3, NS4, and NS5
     regions were prepared The resultant MEFA antigens were expressed, purified,
     and employed in suitable immunoassays for the detection of {\ensuremath{\mathsf{HCV}}}
     -specific antisera. These antigens provide excellent sensitivity and
     specificity for the detection of HCV.
                                  THERE ARE 44 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS
REFERENCE COUNT:
                            44
                                  RECORD. ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT
     ANSWER 10 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN
                            2002:332210 CAPLUS
ACCESSION NUMBER:
DOCUMENT NUMBER:
                            136:339486
TITLE:
                            Identification of HLA-DR11/12-restricted epitopes of
                            hepatitis C virus
INVENTOR(S):
                            Godkin, Andrew James; Thomas, Howard
PATENT ASSIGNEE(S):
                            Imperial College Innovations Limited, UK
SOURCE:
                            PCT Int. Appl., 72 pp.
                            CODEN: PIXXD2
DOCUMENT TYPE:
                            Patent
LANGUAGE:
                            English
FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT:
PATENT INFORMATION:
     PATENT NO.
                           KIND
                                    DATE
                                               APPLICATION NO.
                                                                           DATE
                                                 _____
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     WO 2002034770
                            A1
                                   20020502
                                                WO 2001-GB4636
                                                                           20011018
          W: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,
              CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, PH, PL,
          PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM
RW: GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW, AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR, BF, BI, CF, CG, CT, CM, CA, CN, CO, CM, MI, MB, NE, CN, TD, TG
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BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG
AU 2002010683 A5 20020506 AU 2002-10683 20011018
PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.: GB 2000-26094 A 20001025

WO 2001-GB4636 W 20011018

The authors disclose the use of a computer program to predict AB HLA-DR11-restricted peptide epitopes derived from the hepatitis C virus (HCV) polyprotein. The authors identify four immunodominant epitopes from three HCV proteins for CD4+ T-cells.

THERE ARE 8 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS REFERENCE COUNT: 8 RECORD. ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT

ANSWER 11 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN 1.6

2002:142545 CAPLUS ACCESSION NUMBER:

136:198914 DOCUMENT NUMBER:

Vaccines containing ribavirin as adjuvant TITLE:

Sallberg, Matti; Hultgren, Catharina INVENTOR(S):

Tripep AB, Swed. PATENT ASSIGNEE(S):

PCT Int. Appl., 120 pp. SOURCE:

CODEN: PIXXD2

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent English LANGUAGE:

FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT:

PATENT INFORMATION:

	PAT	CENT	NO.			KIND DATE				i						D	ATE	
		2002								1		001-				2	0010	815
		W:	ΑE,	AG,	AL,	AM,	ΑT,	ΑU,	ΑZ,	BA,	BB,	BG,	BR,	BY,	BZ,	CA,	CH,	CN,
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			GM,	HR,	HU,	ID,	IL,	IN,	IS,	JP,	ΚE,	KG,	KP,	KR,	ΚZ,	LC,	LK,	LR,
			LS,	LT,	LU,	LV,	MA,	MD,	MG,	MK,	MN,	MW,	MX,	ΜZ,	NO,	NΖ,	PL,	PT,
			RO,	RU,	SD,	SE,	SG,	SI,	SK,	SL,	ТJ,	TM,	TR,	TT,	ΤZ,	UA,	UG,	UZ,
	VN, YU, ZA RW: GH, GM, KI				ŻΑ,	zw												
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						•	•	GΑ,										
	CA	2419	418			AA 20020221					CA 2	001-	2419	418		2	0010	815
	AU	2001	0921	51		A 5		2002	0225	2	AU 2	001-	9215	1		2	0010	815
	ΕP	1311	289			A2		2003	0521		EP 2	001-	9723	79		2	0010	815
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	JP	2004	5060	18							JP 2	002-	5189	94		2	0010	815
PRIC	ORITY APPLN. INFO.:									1	US 2	000-	2257	67 P	1	P 2	0000	817
										1	US 2	000-:	2291	75P]	P 2	0000	829
										1	US 2	000-	7055	47	1	A 2	0001	103
									WO 2001-IB1808				1	W 2	0010	815		

Compns. and methods for enhancing the effect of vaccines in animals, such AΒ as domestic, sport, or pet species, and humans are disclosed. More particularly, vaccine compns. comprising ribavirin and an antigen, preferably an antigen that has an epitope present in hepatitis A virus (HAV), hepatitis B virus (HBV), and hepatitis C virus (HCV) are disclosed for use in treating and preventing disease, preferably HAV, HBV and HCV infection.

ANSWER 12 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN 2001:924100 CAPLUS

ACCESSION NUMBER:

136:52715 DOCUMENT NUMBER:

Immunoassays for anti-HCV antibodies TITLE:

Chien, David Y.; Arcangel, Phillip; Tandeske, Laura; INVENTOR(S):

George-Nasciemento, Carlos; Coit, Doris; Medina-Selby,

Angelica

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Chiron Corporation, USA PCT Int. Appl., 92 pp. SOURCE:

CODEN: PIXXD2

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent LANGUAGE: English

FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT:

PATENT INFORMATION:

PATENT NO. APPLICATION NO. KIND DATE DATE _____

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20011220
                                            WO 2001-US19156
                                                                    20010614
    WO 2001096870
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                                20030731
    WO 2001096870
                          A3
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             EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,
             KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW,
             MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR,
             TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW
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             IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR, BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
             GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG
                                20011220
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    CA 2413003
                          AΑ
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    US 2002146685
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                                20021010
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                                            US 2001-881239
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                                20021219
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    US 6630298
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    EP 1350105
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                                20031008
                                            EP 2001-952156
                                                                    20010614
             AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IT, LI, LU, NL, SE, MC, PT,
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             IE, FI, CY, TR
    BR 2001011682
                                20040106
                                            BR 2001-11682
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    JP 2004510133
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                                            JP 2002-510948
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    US 2004063092
                         A1
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    US 6797809
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                                20040928
    US 2004096822
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                                            US 2003-643853
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    US 2004265801
                         A1
                                20041230
                                            US 2004-899715
                                                                    20040726
PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.:
                                            US 2000-212082P
                                                                P 20000615
                                            US 2001-280811P
                                                                P 20010402
                                            US 2001-280867P
                                                                P 20010402
                                            US 2001-881239
                                                                A3 20010614
                                            US 2001-881654
                                                                A3 20010614
                                            WO 2001-US19156
                                                                W 20010614
                                            US 2003-637323
                                                                A1 20030808
    HCV immunoassays comprising an NS3/4a conformational
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AB **HCV** immunoassays comprising an **NS3**/4a conformational epitope and a multiple epitope fusion antigen are provided, as well as immunoassay solid supports for use with the immunoassays.

L6 ANSWER 13 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2001:670798 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 136:257932

TITLE: Development and characterization of recombinant

hepatitis delta virus-like particles

AUTHOR(S): Ward, Scott Matthew; Macnaughton, Thomas Bernard;

Gowans, Eric James

CORPORATE SOURCE: Clinical Medical Virology Centre, The University of

Queensland, St. Lucia, 4067, Australia

SOURCE: Virus Genes (2001), 23(1), 97-104

CODEN: VIGEET; ISSN: 0920-8569

PUBLISHER: Kluwer Academic Publishers

DOCUMENT TYPE: Journal LANGUAGE: English

Injection of particulate hepatitis B virus surface antigen (HBsAg) in mice leads to the induction of a HBsAg-specific class-I-restricted cytotoxic T lymphocyte (CTL) response. It is proposed that any protein internal to HBsAg will also be able to elicit a specific CTL response. In this study, several carboxy-terminal truncations of hepatitis C virus (HCV) core protein were fused to varying lengths of amino-terminal truncated large hepatitis delta antigen (L-HDAg). These constructs were analyzed for their ability to be expressed and the particles secreted in the presence of HBsAg after transfection into HuH-7 cells. The secretion efficiency of the various HCV core-HDAg chimeric proteins was generally poor. Constructs containing full length HDAg appeared to be more stable than truncated versions and the length of the inserted protein was restricted to around 40 amino acids. Thus, the use of L-HDAg as a chimera to package foreign proteins is limited. Consequently, a polyepitope (polytope) containing a B-cell epitope from human papillomavirus (HPV 16) and multiple T-cell epitopes from the HCV polyprotein was used to create the construct, L-HDAg-polyB. This chimeric protein was shown to be reliant on the co-expression of HBsAg for secretion into the cell culture fluid and was secreted more efficiently than the previous

HCV core-HDAg constructs. These L-HDAg-polyB virus-like particles (VLPs) had a buoyant d. of .apprx.1.2 g/cm3 in cesium chloride and .apprx.1.15 g/cm3 in sucrose. The VLPs were also immunopptd. using an anti-HBs but not an anti-HD antibody. Thus, these recombinant VLPs have similar biophys. properties to L-HDAg VLPs.

REFERENCE COUNT: 40 THERE ARE 40 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD. ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT

L6 ANSWER 14 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2000:835361 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 134:16523

TITLE: Diagnosis of, and vaccination against, a positive

stranded RNA virus using an isolated, unprocessed

polypeptide encoded by a substantially complete genome

of such virus

INVENTOR(S): Liao, Jaw-Ching; Wang, Cheng-Nan

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Bionova Corporation, USA

SOURCE: U.S., 35 pp., Cont.-in-part of U.S. Ser. No. 962,989,

abandoned.
CODEN: USXXAM

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent

LANGUAGE: English FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT: 4

PATENT INFORMATION:

	PATENT NO.						IND DATE APPLICATION NO.						D	ATE				
	US	6153	 378					2000	1128							1	9950	531
	US	5625	034			Α		1997	0429	i	US 1	993-	1435	79		1	9931	026
	CA	2222	968			AA		1996	1205		CA 1	996-	2222	968		1	9960	531
	WO	9638	474					1996										
		W:	AL,	AM,	AT,	AU,	AZ,	BB,	BG,	BR,	BY,	CA,	CH,	CN,	CZ,	DE,	DK,	EE,
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		RW:	•		MW.	SD,	SZ.	UG,	AT,	BE,	CH,	DE.	DK,	ES.	FI,	FR.	GB,	GR.
								PT,									-	
	ZA	9604																
	AU	9659	575			A1		1996	1218		AU 1	996-	5957	5		1	9960	531
		8287																
								ES,										
			IE,			,	•	•	•	,		,	,	,	,			,
	CN	1189	•			Α		1998	0805	(CN 1	996-	1951	84		1	9960	531
	JР	1150	6328			Т2		1999	0608			996-					9960	
	BR	9608	676			A		1999	1207		BR 1	996-	8676				9960	
PRIO		APP										992-						
												992-						
												993-				A2 1		
										1	US 1	995-	4549	28				
												996-					9960	
ND	Th.		~~~	a a a d	1			4-4	-1-1		-							

The unprocessed polyprotein initially translated from the genome of a pos.-stranded RNA virus contains epitopic configurations that are not retained in the processed proteins. The structural protein region, in particular, loses an epitopic configuration upon processing at the cleavage site between the genomic region encoding the core protein and the genomic region encoding the protein adjacent the core protein, such as the envelope protein in HCV.

Compns., methods and assays relating to the diagnosis and detection of the presence of the pos.-stranded RNA virus, or antibodies to the pos.-stranded RNA virus, in a sample. Compns. and methods for the induction of immune responses in, and vaccination of, an animal. Combination of the unprocessed core region with a non-structural protein (such as an NS5 or an unprocessed NS3-NS4 fusion from HCV).

REFERENCE COUNT: 33 THERE ARE 33 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS RECORD. ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT

L6 ANSWER 15 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN ACCESSION NUMBER: 1999:298250 CAPLUS

131:127333 DOCUMENT NUMBER:

Use of a novel hepatitis C virus (HCV) TITLE:

major-epitope chimeric polypeptide for diagnosis of

HCV infection

AUTHOR(S): Chien, David Y.; Arcangel, Phillip; Medina-Selby,

Angelica; Coit, Doris; Baumeister, Mark; Nguyen, Steve; George-Nascimento, Carlos; Gyenes, Alexander;

Kuo, George; Valenzuela, Pablo

CORPORATE SOURCE: Chiron Corporation, Emeryville, CA, 94507, USA SOURCE:

Journal of Clinical Microbiology (1999), 37(5),

1393-1397

CODEN: JCMIDW; ISSN: 0095-1137

American Society for Microbiology PUBLISHER:

DOCUMENT TYPE: Journal English LANGUAGE:

The genome of hepatitis C virus (HCV) consists of seven

functional regions: the core, E1, E2/NS1, NS2, NS3,

NS4, and NS5 regions. The U.S. Food and Drug

Administration-licensed 2.0G immunoassay for the detection of anti-

HCV uses proteins from the core, NS3, and NS4

regions. The 3.0G ELISA includes the protein from the NS5

region. The necessity of detecting antibodies to viral envelope proteins (E1 and E2) and to different genotype samples has been demonstrated previously. In this study we have attempted to improve the sensitivity of the anti-HCV assay by developing a single multiple-epitope fusion antigen (MEFA; MEFA-6) which incorporates all of the major

immunodominant epitopes from the seven functional regions of the HCV genome. A nucleic acid sequence consisting of proteins from the viral core, E1, E2, NS3, NS4, and NS5

regions and different subtype-specific regions of the NS4 region was constructed, cloned, and expressed in yeast. The epitopes present on this antigen can be detected by epitope-specific monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies. In a competition assay, the MEFA-6 protein competed with 83 to 96% of genotype-specific antibodies from HCV

genotype-specific peptides. This recombinant antigen was subsequently used to design an anti-HCV chemiluminescent immunoassay. We designed our assay using a monoclonal anti-human IgG antibody bound to the solid phase. Because MEFA-6 is fused with human superoxide dismutase (h-SOD), we used an anti-human superoxide dismutase, di-Me acridinium ester-labeled monoclonal antibody for detection. Our results indicate that MEFA-6 exposes all of the major immunogenic epitopes. Its excellent sensitivity and specificity for the detection of clin. seroconversion are

demonstrated by this assay. THERE ARE 17 CITED REFERENCES AVAILABLE FOR THIS REFERENCE COUNT: 17 RECORD. ALL CITATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE RE FORMAT

ANSWER 16 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN

1997:286360 CAPLUS ACCESSION NUMBER:

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 126:263158

Spliced peptides for the diagnosis and detection of TITLE:

hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection

INVENTOR(S): Hosein, Barbara; Wang, Chang Yi United Biomedical, Inc., USA PATENT ASSIGNEE(S):

Ger. Offen., 71 pp. SOURCE:

CODEN: GWXXBX

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent LANGUAGE: German

FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT:

PATENT INFORMATION:

PATENT NO.	KIND		DATE		
				_	
DE 19549390	A1	19970320	DE 1995-19549390		19951027
DE 19549390	C2	19971023			
US 5736321	Α	19980407	US 1995-530550		19950919
DE 19540105	C1	19970220	DE 1995-19540105		19951027
PRIORITY APPLN. INFO.:			US 1995-530550	Α	19950919
			DE 1995-19540105	АЗ	19951027
			US 1994-333573	B2	19941101

AB .Novel peptides are disclosed which are specific for the diagnosis of hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection, as are compns. containing mixts. of these peptides. The peptides have at least one antigenic region which is effective in the detection of HCV-associated antibodies using an immunoassay. A novel spliced peptide is disclosed which can be used to block the non-specific reactivity of particular NS-3 conformational epitopes. The fused peptide composition includes (1) a linear fused peptide in which the C-terminus is a -COOH or -CONH2 group, (2) one or more of several disclosed peptide sequences, and (3) an amino acid sequence corresponding to the NS-3 region of HCV. Thus, different mixts. of peptides were used detect antibodies in a panel of human sera. Mixts. A and B and D and E showed comparable sensitivity on the whole, but with samples containing core protein 2 and 3, the D and E mixts. showed higher sensitivity than the A and B mixts.

L6 ANSWER 17 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1997:54036 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 126:73782

TITLE: Unprocessed core-envelope fusion

protein and nonstructural protein for the

diagnosis of and vaccination against hepatitis C virus

INVENTOR(S): Liao, Jaw-Ching; Wang, Cheng-Nan

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Bionova Corporation, USA; Liao, Jaw-Ching; Wang,

Cheng-Nan

SOURCE: PCT Int. Appl., 73 pp.

CODEN: PIXXD2

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent LANGUAGE: English

FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT: 1

PATENT INFORMATION:

L6

	PATENT NO.					KIND DATE					APPL	ICAT	ION 1	NO.		D	ATE	
	WO	9637	606			A1	_	1996	1128	1	WO 1	996-	us73	 78		1	9960	522
		W:	AL,	AM,	ΑT,	ΑU,	ΑZ,	BB,	BG,	BR,	BY,	CA,	CH,	CN,	CZ,	DE,	DK,	EE,
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			LU,	LV,	MD,	MG,	MK,	MN,	MW,	MX,	NO,	NZ,	PL,	PT,	RO,	RU,	SD,	SE,
			SG,	SI														
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			ΙE,	IT,	LU,	MC,	NL,	PT,	SE,	BF,	ВJ,	CF,	CG,	CI,	CM,	GA,	GN	
	ZA 9604094					Α		1996	1203		ZA 1	996-	4094			1	9960	522
	ΑU	9659	243			A 1		1996	1211		AU 1	996-	5924	3		1	9960	522
PRIO	RIT	APP	LN.	INFO	. :						US 1	995-	4472	76		A 1	9950.	522
										1	WO 1	996-	บร73	78	1	W 1	9960	522

AB The unprocessed core protein region initially translated from the genome of hepatitis C virus (HCV) contains epitopic configurations that are not retained in the processed proteins. particular, the core protein loses an epitopic configuration upon processing at the cleavage site between the genomic region (e.g., gene) encoding the core protein and the genomic region encoding the adjacent envelope region. The unprocessed epitopic configuration of the core region provides an improved ability to detect the presence of HCV, or antibodies to HCV, in a sample, including an unpurified sample or a sample of very small volume (which can be particularly helpful when testing a sample from an infant or other person having very little blood (or other suitable material) available for testing). Combining the unprocessed core region with a nonstructural protein (such as an NS5 or an NS3-NS4 fusion) results in a synergistic effect that greatly enhances the already improved sensitivity and specificity provided by the unprocessed core region. The unprocessed epitopic configuration of the core region also provides an improved ability to induce an immune response upon administration of the core region into an animal. Recombinant methods are described for the preparation of a cloned DNA mol. (EN-80-2) derived from the HCV core and envelope regions and for a clone (EN-80-1) encoding the NS5 nonstructural protein.

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1993:232253 CAPLUS

DOCUMENT NUMBER: 118:232253

TITLE: Hepatitis C assay utilizing recombinant antigens from

NS5 region

INVENTOR(S): Desal, Suresh M.; Dailey, Stephen H.; Devare, Sushil

G.

PATENT ASSIGNEE(S): Abbott Laboratories, USA SOURCE: PCT Int. Appl., 164 pp.

CODEN: PIXXD2

DOCUMENT TYPE: Patent LANGUAGE: English

FAMILY ACC. NUM. COUNT: 4

PATENT INFORMATION:

PA.	rent i	NO.			KINI)	DATE		A	PF	PLICAT	ION	NO.			DATE
WO	93040 W:	089 AU,					1993	0304	W	O	1992-	US69	64			19920821
		•	•	•		DK,	ES,	FR,	GB,	GR	R, IE,	IT,	LU,	MC,	NI	SE SE
AU	9224	-	-		A1											19920821
EP	6000	00			A1		1994	0608	E	P	1992-	9186	23			19920821
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JP	JP 06510289						1994	1117	J	Р	1993-	5045	50			19920821
US	6172	189			В1		2001	0109	U	S	1997-	8676	511			19970602
US	6593	083			В1		2003	0715	U	S	2000-	6903	59			20001017
PRIORIT	Y APP	LN.	INFO	. :					U	S	1991-	7485	65		Α	19910821
									U	S	1990-	5728	322		ΥY	19900824
									U	S	1990-	6140	169		B2	19901107
									U	S	1991-	7485	61		В2	19910821
									U	S	1991-	7485	66		В2	19910821
									W	O	1992-	US69	64		Α	19920821
									U	S	1992-	9898	143		В1	19921119
									U	S	1994-	1798	96		В1	19940110
									U	S	1996-	6467	157		В1	19960501
									U	S	1997-	8676	511		A3	19970602

AB A recombinant antigen is disclosed which represents the distinct NS5 antigenic region of the hepatitis C virus (HCV) genome and which can be used in the detection of antibodies and antigens in body fluids from individuals exposed to HCV. Also disclosed is an assay for detecting the presence of an antibody to an HCV antigen in a sample by contacting the sample with the recombinant antigen. Preferred assay formats include a screening assay, a confirmatory assay, a competition or neutralization assay, and an immunodot assay. Specifically claimed is recombinant fusion protein HCV CKS-NS5 EF (amino acid sequence included), which consists of 239 amino acids of CKS (Escherichia coli enzyme CMP-KDO synthetase), 9 amino acids contributed by linker DNA sequences, and 550 amino acids from the NS5 region of the HCV genome. Other recombinant antigens (fusion proteins) for HCV detection are also described. Using a group of 233 specimens representing 23 hemodialysis patients having clin. diagnosed non-A non-B hepatitis, data indicated that detection of anti-HCV by a screening assay using pHCV-31 and pHCV-34 products may occur at an equivalent bleed date or as many as 9 mo earlier when compared with a c100-3 screening assay.

L6 ANSWER 19 OF 19 CAPLUS COPYRIGHT 2005 ACS on STN

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TITLE: Hepatitis C antibody assay utilizing recombinant

antigens

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					US 1996-646757 US 1997-867611	B1 19960501 A3 19970602

AB Immunoassays for detecting antibodies to antigens of hepatitis C virus (HCV) in a fluid sample are disclosed which use recombinant antigens. The antigens are fusion products with CMP-KDO synthetase (CKS) and are produced in Escherichia coli. The cloning vector pJO200 was used to fuse DNA encoding the recombinant proteins to DNA for CKS. Plasmid pHCV-34, encoding CKS-HCV core antigen (amino acids 1-150) fusion product, was prepared and expressed in E. coli. A screening immunoassay using this recombinant CKS-core fusion product and fusion protein CKS-33-BCD (prepared from plasmid pHCV-31; containing amino acid sequences from HCV NS3 and NS4 proteins) was sufficiently sensitive to detect seroconversion during the acute phase of HCV infection in chimpanzees. No preinoculation specimens were reactive.